

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 07663 211659Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 A-01 MMO-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3523

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 7663

FOR ARA/APU MR. BARTCH

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, AR

SUBJECT: REPORT FOR AMBASSADOR HILL

FOLLOWING INFORMATION SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO AMBASSADOR HILL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON, D. C., AND CERTAINLY PRIOR TO BEGINNING OF COM CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 24.

1. PATRICIA MANLEY, NEW DCM SECRETARY, ARRIVED LAST NIGHT.
2. EMMONS STATES THAT 33 PERCENT SALARY INCREASE WHICH WAS RECEIVED EARLIER THIS WEEK APPEARS ADEQUATE AT THIS TIME. NO SPECIAL ACTION REQUESTED. HOWEVER, EMMONS URGES AMBASSADOR TO PRESS FOR SECRETARIAL POSITION FOR SCIENCE COUNSELOR WILCOX. ALSO URGE AMBASSADOR TO RE-EMPHASIZE TO THOMAS AND RALSTON NEED FOR PROMPT ACTION ON NEW CHANCERY.
3. COLONEL TART WOULD APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR'S SUPPORT FOR DEFENSE MINISTRY'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL \$9 MILLION ADVANCE IN FY76 CREDITING. REQUEST WAS INITIALLY FORWARDED BY COMUS MILGP MESSAGE 261500Z AUGUST 1975. YOU WERE INFORMED DURING GENERAL MCAULIFFE'S VISIT THAT AMOUNT OF ADVANCE WAS RAISED TO \$16.1 MILLION AND THAT IT WAS STILL BEINGSTAFFED. MONEY IS DESPERATELY NEEDED BY DEFENSE MINISTRY AND WE NEED RESOLUTION. COLONEL TART ALSO REQUESTS AMBASSADOR TO DETERMINE STATUS OF R & D DATA EXCHANGE AGREEMENT WHICH HAS BEEN IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 07663 211659Z

STAFFING FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS. THIS NEEDS TO BE EXPEDITED

SO THAT WE CAN GET ON WITH SEVERAL R & D PROJECTS.

4. DAO SUBMITS ITEMS 4 AND 5. SINCE 14 NOVEMBER 1975, THE MILITARY'S ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGN HAS PICKED UP MOMENTUM. PRESS REPORTS JOINT OPERATIONS ON MANY FRONTS TO INCLUDE SANTA FE, ROSARIO, SAN LUIS, TUCUMAN, CORDOBA, RESISTENCIA, PARANA, CORRIENTES, LA PLATA, MAR DEL PLATA, RIO NEGRO AND TRELEW. OPERATION PARTICIPANTS, DEPENDING ON THE LOCATION, INCLUDE FORCES FROM THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, NAVAL PREFECTURA, GENDARMARIA, FEDERAL POLICE AND PROVINCIAL POLICE. COMMAND AND CONTROL ELEMENTS ARE NORMALLY PROVIDED BY THE ARMY.

5. AARMA VISITED THE 601 ADA BN IN MAR DEL PLATA ON 14 AND 15 NOVEMBER 1975 AND WITNESSED THE ENTHUSIASM AND ESPIRIT DE CORPS OF THE OFFICERS AFTER HAVING JUST COMPLETED A SUCCESSFUL ANTI-SUBVERSIVE OPERATION THERE. ALUSNA VISITED THE MAIN MARINE BASE NEAR PUERTO BELGRANO 19 NOVEMBER TO ATTEND 96TH ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY AND WITNESSED AN IMPRESSIVE DEMONSTRATION OF MEN AND EQUIPMENT. IN CONNECTION WITH THAT CEREMONY ADM MASSERA DISCLOSED PUBLICLY THAT THE MARINE CORPS HAS NOW BEEN TRAINED IN ANTI-SUBVERSIVE WARFARE AND STANDS READY TO ASSIST THE ARMY BY ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN ANTI-SUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS.

6. FOLLOWING IS FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ECOM SECTION: IN CONNECTION WITH VISIT TO EXIM, BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BRING UP PBB LOAN PROBLEM. PBB OFFICIALS AND A. G. MCKEE, THE CONTRACTORS FOR PROJECT, ARE AGREED THIS IS GOOD MOMENT TO TRY TO PERSUADE EXIM TO RECONSIDER THIS CREDIT--AS AN EXCEPTION TO PRESENT POLICY TOWARD ARGENTINA.

7. PBB COMPLEX IS ABOUT 50 PERCENT COMPLETE AND FIRST STAGE OF THE PROJECT HAS BENEFITED FROM AN EXIM LOAN. IN ORDER TO COMPLETE FIRST STAGE PBB WILL NEED EQUIPMENT (COMPRESSORS WHICH WERE NOT INCLUDED IN ORIGINAL EXIM LOAN). AT THE TIME FIRST LOAN WAS NEGOTIATED, A SECOND AND SMALLER TRANCHE WAS FORESEEN AT A LATER DATE. EXIM GAVE PBB TO UNDERSTAND AT THAT TIME THIS SECOND TRANCHE WOULD PRACTICALLY GET AUTOMATIC APPROVAL. NEVERTHELESS, WHEN PBB

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUENOS 07663 211659Z

APPLIED FOR IT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, EXIM TURNED THEM DOWN. COMPRESSORS ARE NEARLY READY TO BE SHIPPED. IF THEY ARE NOT SHIPPED SOON, THIS WILL CAUSE PROBLEMS IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF PLANT. WE BELIEVE THIS IS A GOOD CASE FOR EXIM TO EXCEPT FROM ITS CURRENT POLICY.

8. PBB HAS ALSO APPLIED TO EXIM FOR SECOND PHASE OF PROJECT (TO INCREASE CAPACITY OF PLANT FROM 120 MT TO 200 MT PER

YEAR). THEY MAY HAVE BEEN TURNED DOWN. NO MATTER - AT THE
MOMENT WE ARE NOT CONCERNED WITH THIS PART OF THE
PROJECT WHICH IS STILL A WAYS DOWN THE PIKE.

9. DURING YOUR BRIEFING AT FABRICACIONES MILITARES THE OTHER
DAY, YOU TOLD GENERAL URICARRIET YOU WOULD ALSO BRING UP
SIDINSA STEEL PROJECT WITH EXIM. RECOMMEND YOU DO SO. THIS
ONE IS STILL SOME TIME AWAY AND YOU SHOULD MENTION IT ONLY
FOR THEIR INFO.

10. SUSAN ZAMBITO REQUIRES SPECIALIZED SURGERY WHICH IS
AVAILABLE IN MIAMI. SHE WILL PROCEED TO THE HOSPITAL APPROXI-
MATELY NOVEMBER 26 ACCOMPANIED BY FRANK ZAMBITO. PROBLEMS
CAUSED BY ANTICIPATED ABSENCE OF ZAMBITO FOR AS LONG AS TWO
TO THREE WEEKS WILL BE SUBMITTED IN SEPTTEL.

11. REGARDS FROM ALL THE STAFF.
MONTLLOR

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